

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission

Keep Cool Hills Cooperative Hunting Access and Recreation Management Area Public Use Special Regulations

BIENNIAL RULE (Tentative)

Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission adopts the following rules and regulations to govern recreational use within the designated Keep Cool Hills Hunting Access and Recreation Management Area in Lewis and Clark County for the purpose of gaining hunting access and recreational privileges on private land, to prevent vehicular damage to soils and vegetation, and to avoid excessive disturbance to native wildlife including threatened and endangered species.

This Rule is effective from 4/12/12 to 4/11/14.

The designated area of the Keep Cool Hills Cooperative Hunting Access and Recreation Management Area is depicted in Figure 1 below:

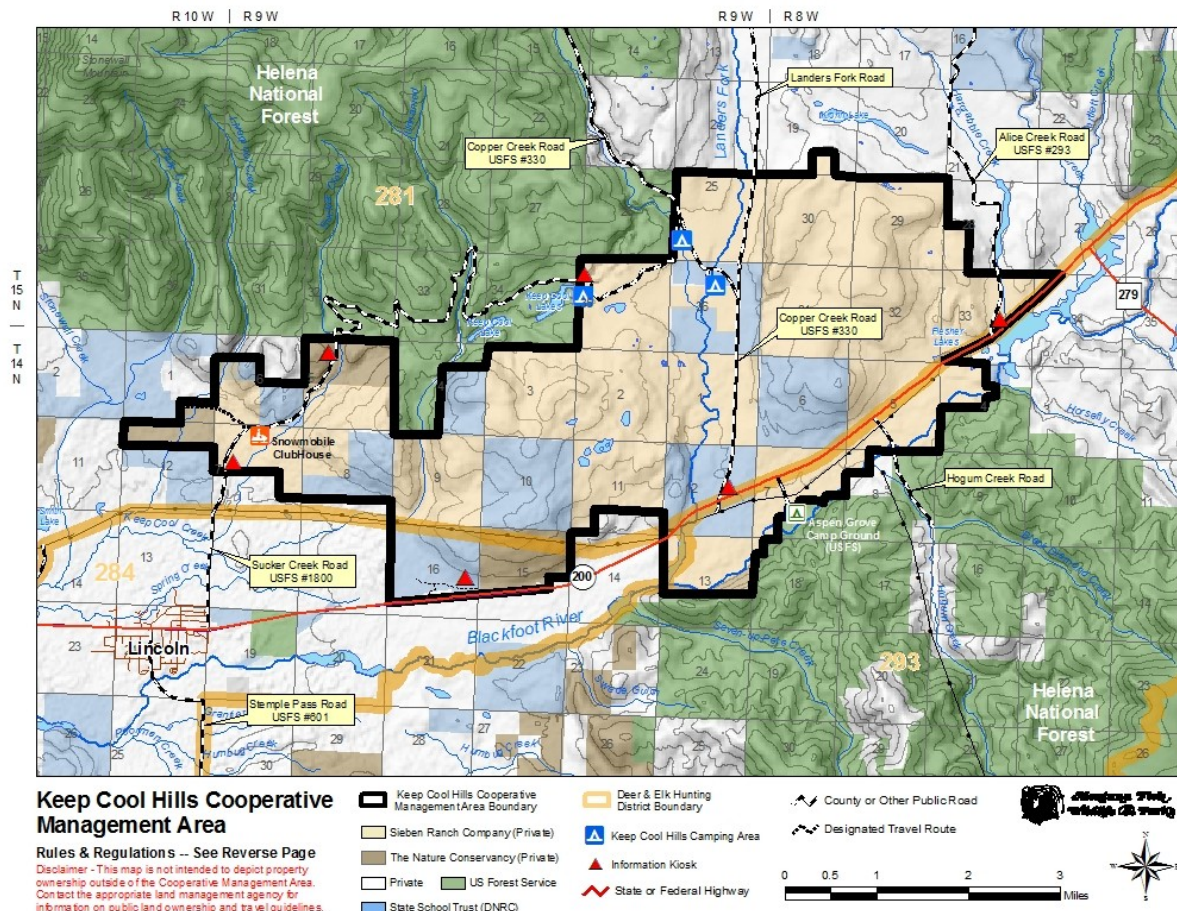


Figure 1. Keep Cool Hills Cooperative Hunting Access and Recreation Management Area Map.

Because the public enjoyment of the recreational facilities of these lands necessitates rules, regulations and enforcement, the provisions of 23-1-106 and 87-1-303 M.C.A. apply. It is therefore ordered that it shall be unlawful for any person to:

1. Drive any motorized wheeled-vehicle in the above-described area except on county roads, on private roads designated open for motorized travel, or in designated parking and camping areas as posted. Landowners and/or their designee in the course of administrative work, and federal, state, and county officials in the course of their official duties will be exempt from these vehicular restrictions.
2. Park any vehicle in such a manner as to obstruct traffic or block any gate.
3. Trespass, hunt, or discharge a firearm within areas posted as safety zones. Target shooting and discharge of firearms is prohibited on Sieben Ranch Company land from June 1 through August 31, annually.
4. Remain in the above-described area when ordered to leave for cause by a landowner or law enforcement officer.
5. Camp on Sieben Ranch Company or The Nature Conservancy land except in designed areas as posted. Camping on DNRC land is allowed within 200 feet of customary access points, but limited to 7 days.
6. Disturb, harass or otherwise interfere with livestock.
7. Operate a snowmobile in the above-described area between April 2 and November 30. Snowmobile use is allowed seasonally from December 1 through April 1, and shall be restricted to designated trails.
8. Conduct commercial outfitting or guiding of hunters or fisherman in the above-described area.

STATEMENT OF LEGAL AUTHORITY FOR THE RULE

Section 23-1-106, MCA and section 87-1-303, MCA gives the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission authority to adopt and enforce rules governing uses of lands that it operates under agreement with or in conjunction with a private owner.

This rule was adopted by the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission on _____, 2012.

Bob Ream, Chairman
Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission